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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8979
INFO RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 0303
RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY 0134
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 0169
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY 0103
RUEHBD/AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN PRIORITY 0026
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI PRIORITY 0154
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RUEHPF/AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY 0097
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 0094
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1902
RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY 0050
RUEHROV/AMEMBASSY VATICAN PRIORITY 0702
RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 8924
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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [UNSC](#) [BU](#) [IT](#)
SUBJECT: ITALY ON UNSC BURMA MEETING

REF: SECSTATE 125430

Classified By: Acting Political M/C Gabriel Escobar for reasons 1.4 (b)
and (d).

¶1. (C) Poloff met September 12 with MFA Office Director for Southeast Asia Alberto Vecchi to deliver reftel demarche seeking support for travel by UN Special Envoy Ibrahim Gambari to Burma followed by a formal Security Council meeting on Burma.

¶2. (C) Vecchi agreed that the situation in Burma was the most serious since 2003 and said Italy was greatly concerned about the recent crackdown. Vecchi noted that the participation of monks in recent protests was a new development, and an important sign of growing popular discontent.

¶3. (C) Vecchi said that Italy was "110 percent behind" efforts to send Special Envoy Gambari to Burma, but the question of a formal Security Council meeting on Burma was more complicated. He said he believed Italy would support such a meeting, but asked why we thought Russian and China would change their positions now on adding Burma to the UNSC agenda. Vecchi said that a second veto could set back Gambari's mission and embolden the junta.
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